

Mock trial and other academic teams have earned state championship titles and athletic teams have produced championship titles at county, regional and state levels.

Management style at Kittatinny emphasizes collaborative decision-making, site-based management and teacher/staff empowerment. Committees deal with current and future needs of the school and allow the faculty to have a voice in changes in policy.

Kittatinny students are well prepared by their teachers, parents and role models in the community. They can rest assured they will be able to handle whatever challenges they choose in life. Once again, congratulations to everyone involved in this impressive achievement.

#### COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

#### HON. PAUL McHALE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. McHALE. Mr. Speaker, in this season of graduation throughout the country, today I would like to highlight the achievements of a very special group of students. Four years ago, Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley created a new "Academy" within William Allen High School in Allentown, PA, in my district. Young people who were at risk of dropping out of school were identified and asked to participate in this new program. With the support of the Allentown School District, an innovative curriculum was created and instituted by two teachers: James R. Gollatz and Darryl Skrovanek. Mr. Gollatz was recently honored as a "Teacher of the Year" at the high school. Mr. Skrovanek has taken a leadership role as President of the Allentown Education Association.

The students recruited into the program found a safe place where they could successfully learn and prepare for life. When additional services were needed to help, Communities In Schools forged partnerships with scores of other organizations to meet these needs. These students found the resources within themselves, in the school, and in the community to meet their challenge. They stayed in school.

Next week, on June 10th, 1998, this group of young adults will accomplish something perhaps they and others doubted they could do: they will graduate with a diploma from William Allen High School. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of: Albert Albino, Saywood Cross, Brent Davis, Theresa Duch, Lazarus Figuerue, Jeffrey Freer, Zila Gonzalez, Shane Heiser, Stephen Hertzog, Melissa Koehler, Peter Macias, Mathew Reese, Shuree Riddick, Jennifer Seltzer, Jessica Snyder, and Lindsey Wargo.

I know you join me in offering heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for all their future endeavors.

#### HONORING ALEX KIRPNICK

#### HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Border Patrol Agent Alex Kirpnick, who was shot and killed last night in Nogales, Arizona. Alex and his partner came upon five drug smugglers crossing just west of Nogales and in the course of doing his job, Alex was killed.

Alex Kirpnick immigrated to the United States from Russia 10 years ago. He had been with the Border Patrol for 20 months and was a highly skilled agent who spoke eight languages. I know from speaking to Alex's colleagues that Alex was a man of great character and he will be missed.

Alex was well-liked and respected by all those he worked with. Alex is survived by his parents, Boris and Eta Kirpnick, and a sister, Zhanna, who live in California. I have never felt the pain of losing a child, but during my tenure as Border Patrol Chief in Texas, I lost many good officers. I would like to extend my condolences to Alex's family and to his colleagues in Nogales who have lost a dear friend and a good agent.

As a former border patrol chief, I know the sacrifices made by the men and women on our border, protecting our communities. I ask all of my colleagues to remember Alex and the often thankless job he performed each and every day. Alex faithfully served our nation and protected our communities while serving on our nation's border and we owe Alex a great debt of gratitude for his service and commitment.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants in commemoration of their 100th anniversary. I am honored to recognize this outstanding association for all that they have done for the state of New Jersey and its citizens. Each year, many New Jersey residents turn to these professionals to help sort through the countless number of forms and regulations that the Internal Revenue Service puts out. It is often our CPA that we can thank for keeping our family or business in compliance with the laws.

The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants was founded on January 19, 1898 in Newark, New Jersey and has served the community ever since. They have experienced significant growth and change in their century of existence. Similarly, they have also sparked much growth and prosperity in partnership with New Jersey businesses and citizens.

The organization has encouraged modifications in the tax rate, has supported state tort reform, and was instrumental in the creation of

the State's Taxpayer Bill of Rights. It is for this that I pay tribute to this organization on this special anniversary. Their record of service to the people of New Jersey has been meritorious and for this I commend them.

I want to congratulate all of the members of the society and thank them for all of their years of dedication and service. It is a pleasure to have many of the members as my constituents and I wish every one of them future success.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 286—UNDERSTANDING THE LINK BETWEEN ANIMAL ABUSE AND HUMAN VIOLENCE

#### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the strong link between violence against animals and violence against people, and to call to the attention of my colleagues House Concurrent Resolution 286 which urges greater attention to identifying and treating individuals who are guilty of violence against animals because of the link between abuse of animals and violence against humans. The resolution also calls for additional research to increase our understanding of the connection between cruelty to animals and violence against humans.

After the recent school shootings in Arkansas and Oregon, heavy attention has been paid to the early signs of the potential for children to commit violent crime. It is no coincidence that the accused in these two tragic cases are juveniles with disturbing histories of animal cruelty and abuse. Mr. Speaker, it is common sense knowledge that any individual who harms animals cruelly and deliberately is not otherwise well adjusted.

Mr. Speaker, the FBI already lists violence against animals as a behavioral trait and characteristic of violent offenders. Almost all serial killers are known to have abused animals. Indeed, cruelty toward animals is often a sign of mental disturbance in both children and adults.

Teachers, principals, parents, and law enforcement officers must all be encouraged to recognize this connection and to take incidences of animal cruelty seriously. An abused animal is often a sign that a spouse, a child, or an elder in the household is or may become the victim of aggression and abuse. A pet may be a surrogate target of violence. Abuse of a household pet often fuels violent tendencies that are a precursor to acts of violence against family members and others.

Violence against animals co-exists with and precedes violent crimes, especially crimes of domestic violence. The Federal Government must not overlook this correlation. By studying this link, we can increase awareness and understanding of violent crime and the potential violent crimes in our homes, in our schools, and in our communities.

Furthermore, we must reject the notion that violence against animals is simply normal societal behavior. If we treat cruelty to animals with a dismissive "boys will be boys," we may well be ignoring critical initial signs that may lead to violent behavior and we may be passing up an opportunity to take action to prevent